Record Nr. UNINA9910817863503321 Autore Fedele Cassandra <1465?-1558.> Titolo Letters and orations / / Cassandra Fedele; edited and translated by Diana Robin Chicago,: University of Chicago Press, 2000 Pubbl/distr/stampa 1-281-12554-7 **ISBN** 9786611125547 0-226-23933-0 Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (211 p.) Collana Other voice in early modern Europe Altri autori (Persone) RobinDiana Maury Disciplina 875/.04 Speeches, addresses, etc., Latin (Medieval and modern) - Italy - Venice Soggetti Authors, Latin (Medieval and modern) - Italy - Venice Humanists - Italy - Venice Feminists - Italy - Venice Italy Intellectual life 1268-1559 Sources Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Description based upon print version of record. Note generali Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references (p. 167-174) and index. Nota di contenuto Front matter -- CONTENTS -- Introduction to the Series --Acknowledgments -- Editor's Introduction -- One. Women Patrons --Two. Family Members -- Three. Princes and Courtiers -- Four. Academics and Literary Friends -- Five. Men of the Church -- Six. Unknown Correspondents and Humanist Form Letters -- Seven. The Public Lectures -- Bibliography -- Index Sommario/riassunto By the end of the fifteenth century, Cassandra Fedele (1465-1558), a learned middle-class woman of Venice, was arguably the most famous woman writer and scholar in Europe. A cultural icon in her own time, she regularly corresponded with the king of France, lords of Milan and Naples, the Borgia pope Alexander VI, and even maintained a ten-year epistolary exchange with Queen Isabella and King Ferdinand of Spain that resulted in an invitation for her to join their court. Fedele's letters reveal the central, mediating role she occupied in a community of scholars otherwise inaccessible to women. Her unique admittance into this community is also highlighted by her presence as the first

independent woman writer in Italy to speak publicly and, more

importantly, the first to address philosophical, political, and moral issues in her own voice. Her three public orations and almost all of her letters, translated into English, are presented here for the first time.